



Renewal of Vows

Option Two

PROCESSIONAL (Optional for smaller gatherings)

WELCOME

We welcome you to this service of the renewal of the vows of marriage that _____ (husband) and _____ (wife) made _____ (number) years ago ...

PRAYER (Optional)

TIME OF REMEMBRANCE

Let's take a walk down memory lane. I want you to hold hands and remember:

- the first time you held hands,
 - your first kiss,
 - your wedding day,
 - your first home,
 - your first crisis,
 - your first child,
 - your first memorable vacation, and
 - your first shared grief.

(Optional)

Would you now face each other, with both hands joined, and together, before these witnesses, thank God for the life you have shared?

(The minister will prompt the couple.)

Couple in unison repeats: "We thank you, God, for the hopes and dreams, stillness and sounds, burdens and blessings, pleasure and pain, heartaches and hope, mountains and valleys, gladness and sorrow, grace and goodness, love and faith. Amen."

RENEWAL OF VOWS

As you continue to hold hands, _____ (husband), please repeat these vows of renewal and commitment to _____ (wife) after me:

Husband: "_____, (bride), thank you for being my devoted wife, my dearest friend, my desirable mate, and my dynamic partner. I am grateful for the faithful devotion you have shown as well as the unselfish sacrifices you have made for me (*if applicable:* "and our family"). I thank God for you and his blessing of my marriage to you for the past _____ (number) years. I consider it a privilege to stand with – and by – you. I joyfully recommit my love and my faithful devotion to you. I will continue to love, honor, and cherish you as long as we both shall live. I pledge to join with you in creating a climate in our home that blesses family and friends. I promise to serve you, as together we serve others. Before these witnesses and in the presence of God, I now renew my wedding vows and declare that you alone are my lifetime love."

_____ (wife), please repeat these vows of renewal and commitment to _____ (husband) after me:

Wife: "_____, (groom), thank you for being my devoted husband, my dearest friend, my desirable mate, and my dynamic partner. I am grateful for the faithful devotion you have shown as well as the unselfish sacrifices you have constantly made for me (*if applicable, add:* "and our family"). I thank God for you and his blessing of my marriage to you for the past _____ (number) years. I consider it a privilege to stand with – and by – you. I joyfully recommit my love and my faithful devotion to you. I promise I will not compromise my wedding vows. I will continue to love, honor, and cherish you as long as we both shall live. I pledge to join with you in

creating a climate in our home that blesses family and friends. I promise to serve you, as together we serve others. Before these witnesses and in the presence of God, I now renew my wedding vows and declare that you alone are my lifetime love.”

RENEWAL OF THE RINGS

Would you both now turn and face me? You are about to place again these rings, which have become increasingly meaningful symbols to you with the passing of years, upon your marriage partner’s finger as you did _____ (number) years ago. A poet, more eloquent than I, beautifully expresses some tender thoughts about the hand that he held:

(Poem is optional. Otherwise, we proceed right to your ring vows)

“This is the hand on which I placed
 A golden wedding ring,
The hand in which I placed my life,
 My love, my everything.

This is the hand that gave me strength
 To help me through the years,
The hand that touched me tenderly
 And wiped away the tears.

This is the hand that held our child
 So gently to her breast,
The hand that soothes away the pain
 And tenderly caressed.

This is the hand that pointed out
 The way our child should go,
The hand that gently led the way
 To make the loving grow.

This is the hand, the only hand,
 That I will ever hold,
The hand that I will hold in mine
 As all the years unfold.

This is the hand that wears my ring
 In happiness and pride,
Just as she did that day
 When she became my bride.”

GROOM RECEIVING RING

_____ (wife), place your husband's wedding band on his finger.
_____ (husband), repeat after me: "As I once again receive this ring which you gave me as a symbol of our wedding vows _____ (number) years ago, I promise that I will always gratefully and proudly wear it. I assure you that all I possess and all I am continue to belong to you. "

BRIDE RECEIVING RING

_____ (husband), place your wife's wedding band on her finger.
_____ (wife), repeat after me: "As I once again receive this ring which you gave me as a symbol of our wedding vows _____ (number) years ago, I promise that I will always gratefully and proudly wear it. I assure you that all I possess and all I am continue to belong to you. "

PRAYER OF RENEWAL (Optional)

Dear God, continue to bless the home of _____ (husband) and _____ (wife)? May their children [and children's children (*if applicable*)] be a blessing to them and their legacy to the world. You have heard these vows. May every promise be secured as they continue their journey together as husband and wife. Amen.

PRONOUNCEMENT

In as much as _____ (husband) and _____ (wife) together have consented to continue in the bonds and love; have witnessed the same before God, their beloved family, and cherished friends; have given and exchanged their vows and rings as public symbols of their renewed promises; it is my joy to announce that they continue to be husband and wife.

_____ (husband) kiss _____ (wife), your sweetheart, best friend, bride, and wife forever.

RECESSIONAL